

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5700

To amend titles 5 and 37, United States Code, and the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to authorize the payment of certain travel expenses for Federal employees, members of the uniformed services, and members of the Foreign Service involved in disasters or other catastrophic events, as well as the travel of their family representatives and agency representatives.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 24, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services and International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend titles 5 and 37, United States Code, and the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to authorize the payment of certain travel expenses for Federal employees, members of the uniformed services, and members of the Foreign Service involved in disasters or other catastrophic events, as well as the travel of their family representatives and agency representatives.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Employees,
3 Uniformed Service and Foreign Service Members Human-
4 itarian Travel Act of 2002”.

5 **SEC. 2. PAYMENT OF HUMANITARIAN TRAVEL EXPENSES**
6 **INVOLVING CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES.**

7 Section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
10 following:

11 “(4) Under regulations prescribed pursuant to sec-
12 tion 5707 of this title, the head of an agency may pay
13 the travel expenses of family representatives and agency
14 representatives to support the needs of an employee de-
15 scribed in paragraph (1)(A) or (3) of this subsection.”;

16 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
17 section (d); and

18 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(c) Under regulations prescribed pursuant to section
21 5707 of this title, the head of an agency may pay the trav-
22 el expenses of an employee involved in a disaster or other
23 catastrophic event, family representatives of the employee,
24 and agency representatives to, from, and at—

25 “(1) the site of such disaster or other cata-
26 strophic event;

1 “(2) the site of a memorial service related to
2 such disaster or other catastrophic event; and

3 “(3) any other location as determined by the
4 head of the agency concerned or his designee.”.

5 **SEC. 3. TRANSPORTATION INCIDENT TO DISASTER OR**
6 **OTHER CATASTROPHIC EVENTS INVOLVING**
7 **MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Chapter 7 of title 37, United
9 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 411i
10 the following new section:

11 **“§ 411j. Travel and transportation allowances: trans-**
12 **portation incident to disaster or other**
13 **catastrophic event**

14 “(a) ALLOWANCE AUTHORIZED.—In connection with
15 a disaster or other catastrophic event, the Secretary con-
16 cerned may provide travel and transportation allowances
17 to the following persons:

18 “(1) A member of the uniformed services who
19 is involved in the disaster or other catastrophic
20 event.

21 “(2) Family members (as defined in section
22 411h(b) of this title) of the member.

23 “(3) Representatives of the Secretary con-
24 cerned.

1 “(b) COVERED TRAVEL.—Travel and transportation
 2 allowances may be provided under subsection (a) for travel
 3 to, from, and at—

4 “(1) the site of the disaster or other cata-
 5 strophic event;

6 “(2) the site of a memorial service related to
 7 the disaster or other catastrophic event; or

8 “(3) any other location as determined by the
 9 Secretary concerned.

10 “(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretaries concerned shall
 11 prescribe uniform regulations to carry out this section.”.

12 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of such
 13 chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating
 14 to section 411i the following new item:

“411j. Travel and transportation allowances: transportation incident to disaster
 or other catastrophic event.”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 411h(a)(1)
 16 of such title is amended by striking “transportation de-
 17 scribed in subsection (c)” and inserting “travel and trans-
 18 portation allowances”.

19 **SEC. 4. TRAVEL INCIDENT TO DISASTER OR OTHER CATA-**
 20 **STROPHIC EVENTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF**
 21 **THE FOREIGN SERVICE.**

22 Section 901 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
 23 U.S.C. 4081) is amended—

1 (1) at the end of paragraph (14) by striking
2 “and”;

3 (2) at the end of paragraph (15) by striking the
4 period and inserting “; and”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following para-
6 graph:

7 “(16) travel by a member of the Service who is
8 involved in a disaster or other catastrophic event
9 while assigned abroad or in travel status, by family
10 members of the member of the Service, representa-
11 tives of the family of the member of the Service, and
12 by agency representatives to, from, and at—

13 “(A) the site of such disaster or other cat-
14 astrophic event;

15 “(B) the site of a memorial service related
16 to such disaster or other catastrophic event;
17 and

18 “(C) any other location as determined by
19 the Secretary.”.

20 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

21 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
22 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

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